The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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LABOR'S GOAL!
To Repeal
Taft-Hartley Law

WHOLE NO. 1955 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1948 — GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer — VOL. 38, NO. 39

Vice-Presidential Candidates Contest For Labor Support In Campaign Talks

Barkley Charges NAM Is Seeking to Erase Labor's Gains

Atlantic City.—Senator Alben W. Barkley accused the National Association of Manufacturers of having spent $3,000,000 in advertising "to break down the strength of labor organizations and destroy controls on the cost of living."

Addressing 400 delegates to the 60th anniversary of the United Hebrew Trades, the Democratic vice-presidential nominee said a major worry of American people today is that there may be "a reversion to the old days of domination of this country by the private interests."

A Republican victory in November, he declared, may result in such a reversion, and bring about the loss of social and economic gains of the last 16 years.

Barkley said the Republican-controlled 80th Congress failed to act to provide housing at reasonable prices and to hold down living costs.

Warren Would Change Taft-Hartley Act "If Oppressive"

Detroit.—Gov. Earl Warren of California promised that a victorious Republican administration will alter the Taft-Hartley labor law "if any of its provisions are oppressive."

Warren, Republican vice-presidential nominee, spoke in Masonic Temple auditorium at the kickoff of a GOP drive to capture predominantly Democratic Detroit.

Warren said he believed that "we need a national labor policy that strives to make the rules of the game fair, and if experience shows the law does not do this, let's change it."

In back platform appearances at Toledo and at Marion, the California governor asked that labor and management "get together to solve their problems."

On the whole, however, Gov. Warren endorsed the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act and insisted that the new law should not be discarded before further trial. His views accorded with the GOP platform.

WEST COAST FIGHT

By Staff Correspondent

San Francisco.—National attention is being given the California State Federation of Labor's fight in the campaign for Senate reapportionment, now going into the homestretch toward general election day.

Under the direction of C. J. "Neil" Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California federation, the manpower and womanpower of organized labor is being recruited to carry the importance of State Senate reapportionment to California's 4,000,000 or more voters.

For the past 20 years the California State Senate has been dominated by so-called "rural" areas—actually mountain country where the power of utility corporations, mining and lumber tycoons played hand-in-glove with corporation, banking and industrial octupi to hamper and hamstring progressive legislation.

One senatorial district with a total population of 12,000 souls has an equal Senate voice with Los Angeles county's 4,000,000 people under a system that prohibits more than 1 Senator to a county and not more than 3 counties to form a senatorial district.

The spectacular growth of California from 1940 to the present year finds 6,000,000 people in 5 major counties represented by 5 Senators while 4,000,000 in the rest of the state have 35 Senators. A group of the 5 smallest senatorial districts have 136,000 residents and can outvote San Francisco's 850,000 by 5 to 1—because the present system restricts San Francisco to 1 Senator.

A typical example of hampering progressive legislation was the Disability Insurance Act, which was presented for over 7 years by State Senator Jack Shelley, present president of the California State Federation of Labor.

The measure was finally adopted and in its first year of operation not only furnished an economic cushion for those who were disabled or suffered illness "off the job," but also accumulated $34,000,000 in profit for the fund.

The pretense of the Senate being "rural" was exposed last year when an attempt was made to eliminate the 160-acre limitation (under the Reclamation Act of 1913). The farmers opposed the measure and in a survey conducted by a farm magazine voted 7 to 1 for the retention of the 160-acre limitation. Yet the State Senate voted 21-17 to eliminate the limitation. Only the fact that the assembly, elected on a population basis, and with the majority of the votes coming from the large city counties, defeated the measure a retrogressive, reactionary bit of legislation would have been passed.

Some outstanding members of the Grange recognized the service of C. J. Haggerty, as legislative representative of the state federation, in leading the fight against the elimination of the 160-acre limitation. But for the most part the small city newspapers, both daily and weekly, are carrying on the campaign of distrust and suspicion of organized labor.

With a few exceptions the majority of California newspapers are opposing Senate reapportionment so the campaign has to be conducted through the membership and friends. The friends, however, include a large segment of lawyers, educators, clergymen and small businessmen who have formed a Citizens' Committee for Equal Representation. Former State Supreme Court Justice John W. Preston heads the committee in southern California, with top ranking Democratic and Republican leaders assisting in northern California. Mayor Joseph E. Smith of Oakland is one of the leaders for Senate reapportionment.

While this is a California campaign, the U. S. Conference of Mayors has been conducting a long-time national campaign along the same lines, pointing out that many cities face bankruptcy because of the drain on the tax potentialities of the cities. Their long survey discloses that 59 percent of American lives in cities, has an over-all 25 percent representation in legislative houses. The national rural population is 41 percent but has 75 percent representation in legislatures. It is the Boston Tea Party motivation of "taxation without representation" for the 59 percent totals 85,000,000 people who produce 75 percent of the national income and pay 90 percent of the taxes.

(To be continued)

More Killed on War Production Lines Than on Battlefronts, ILO Reports

Geneva. — It was reported that "more people were killed or injured on production lines during the war than on the battlefront" in a study submitted by the International Labor Organization to its technical tripartite conference here on safety in factories. Branding these industrial losses a "blot on civilization," the report calls for international action to reduce them.

The report holds that these accidents are not accidental but stem largely from "causes both ascertainable and controllable."

The technical tripartite conference, whose purpose is to adopt international model code regulations on safety in factories, represents 21 ILO member countries. Delegates are comprised of representatives of governments, employers and labor.

Following revision and adoption by the conference, the code will be submitted to governments as a guide to framing and revising factory regulations. Draft work on this code was first begun by the International Labor Organization in 1942. Three years later, it was considered in a series of meetings of the organization's correspondence committees on accident prevention and industrial hygiene.

ECA Sends Labor Men to 6 Nations

Washington. — Economic Cooperation Administrator Paul Hoffman announced the appointment of labor advisers to the chiefs of ECA missions in 6 participating nations of Europe. They are:

To Holland, Lee R. Smith, vice president of the Brotherhood of Railway Signalmen.

To Italy, William L. Munger, executive secretary of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers.

To Belgium and the Luxembourg, Albert L. Wegener, assistant to the president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

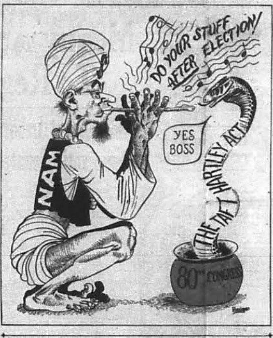
To Norway and Denmark, John Gross, former president of the Colorado State Federation of Labor.

"These men have been chosen because of their demonstrations of skill in handling manpower and production problems in the past" Mr. Hoffman said. "The important part that labor has to play in the European recovery program demands that constant labor advice and information be made available not only to the chiefs of the country missions, but to ECA headquarters here and in Paris. I hope to be able to announce appointments to other participating countries shortly."

LABOR PRODUCTIVITY UP FACTORY SURVEY SHOWS

San Francisco. — Productivity in manufacturing industry for the year ended August 2, 1948, jumped 4.4 percent as compared with the traditional 3 percent per year of the 1899-1939 period.

This fact was revealed by Factory Management and Maintenance in a survey of 610 companies with 1,297,864 employes, representing more than 10 percent of total employment in manufacturing.



Movie Stars Lend Voices To AFL "Get-Out-Vote"

New York City.—Junking his jester's crown, Bob Hope will be on the airwaves almost daily until Election Day with a serious message, pointing out that "you abdicate your right to gripe like crazy" about Congress and the government if you fail to cast your ballot on November 2.

Adolphe Menjou, James Stewart, Dinah Shore, Walter Pidgeon and Gypsy Rose Lee are others of the 20 famous stars of stage, screen and radio who have made spot recordings for use by local radio stations.

The show business stars who cooperated are members of the American Federation of Radio Artists, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor. The series is an AFL public service. The recordings will be distributed by the AFL to its central labor unions, with the request that they request their local radio stations to broadcast them.

Non-partisan in text and tone, the brief messages highlight the importance of every citizen visiting the polls on Election Day in order that public officials be chosen who will give American people truly representative government.

Bright, entertaining and listenable, the minute and half-minute messages nevertheless emphasize the serious dangers involved if this year, as in the past, negligent citizens allow the election of public servants who fail to serve the real interests of the public.

Lively, forceful "spots" were also made by William Holden, Jerry Colonna, Jinx Falkenburg, June Lockhart, Larry Adler, George Montgomery, Ella Logan, Jane Froman, Morton Downey, Lena Horne, Danny Thomas, Marie MacDonald, Frank McHugh and Patricia Morrison.

Tobin Castigates Hartley's Demands For the Repeal of Walsh-Healey Act

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Tobin tore into Representative Hartley of New Jersey for advocating repeal of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act.

This law, Mr. Tobin declared, was adopted by Congress 12 years ago to prevent the government from buying supplies from chiseling employers and to support manufacturers who pay decent wages. The law does not seek to raise wages, Mr. Tobin pointed out, but does try to keep chiselers from benefiting from government contracts. He added:

"The repeal of the Walsh-Healey law would leave only the Wage-Hour law which now carries a minimum wage of 40 cents an hour. The 80th Congress refused to increase that wage and apparently Mr. Hartley wishes to hold the worker who is employed on government contracts down to 40 cents an hour. In Mr. Hartleys opinion, anything more than that is inflationary.

"It may also be noted that the safety and health requirements for government bidders contained in the Walsh-Healey Act and the prohibition of prison-made goods both would be repealed along with the minimum wage provisions if Congressman Hartley's repeal proposal were carried out.

Mr. Hartley complains because Secretaries of Labor have not followed the impractical and nonsensical practice of determining separate minimum wages for each of the thousands of minute areas in which government work might be performed. If the Secretaries of Labor followed Mr. Hartley's interpretation there would be no point in having the Walsh-Healey Act since it would, in essence, merely legalize whatever substandard wages were being paid by any particular manufacturer in a nonunion or depressed area.

"For 12 years, Secretaries of Labor have found the prevailing minimum wage rates on the basis of actual facts in each industry. In the only case in which this was challenged the Supreme Court of the United States fully sustained that procedure.

"Mr. Hartley also fails to note that the support for the Walsh-Healey Act comes not only from labor organizations but from many employers, north and south, who observe decent labor standards. During recent hearings, the Department received dozens of letters from manufacturers paying decent wages, including some from Hartley's own state of New Jersey, pleading with the Secretary of Labor to establish prevailing minimum wage standards in order that they might be able to compete for government work.

"I regret that Mr. Hartley is not running for reelection to Congress from New Jersey this year."

ILLNESS IS CHIEF CAUSE OF EXISTING ABSENTEEISM

Washington. — Illness and off-the-job accidents accounted for three-fifths of the absenteeism reported for manufacturing workers in 1947, according to the Monthly Labor Review, official publication of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor.

These findings were based upon a survey of absenteeism in 246 manufacturing plants, conducted jointly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Social Security Administration, and the United States Public Health Service.

KELSAY KILLED IN CRASH; HEADED METAL POLISHERS

Indianapolis.—Ray Kelsay, 60, president of the Metal Polishers, Buffers and Platers International Union, was killed in an automobile accident while driving here alone from a union meeting in South Bend, Ind. It was believed that he collapsed from a heart attack before the crash.

Mr. Kelsay, who had devoted his lifetime to the cause of organized labor, took the lead at the close of the war in pushing a drive for the employment of handicapped veterans in jobs for which they are suited. He had been president of the Metal Polishers since 1943, having served the union earlier as vice-president and as business agent for his hometown local in Indianapolis. He leaves a widow, two daughters and a son. Funeral services and burial took place in Indianapolis.

BATES REELECTED HEAD OF BRICKLAYERS UNION

San Francisco. — Harry C. Bates, was elected to his 13th consecutive term as president of the AFL Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union at the union's convention here.

The union went on record favoring "all appropriate and proper means" to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act.

Other officers chosen included John J. Murphy as national organizing director and secretary, and Thomas F. Murphy, as treasurer.

Green Spurs AFL Branches To Intensify Political Drive

America Needs Mandate In Full Vote, Green Says

Chicago.—In a nation-wide radio appeal for a full vote on Nov. 2, AFL President William Green declared that only in this way can the government obtain a "real mandate" from the people to guide its future policies on peace, inflation, housing, labor-management relations and other vital issues.

Democracy is bound to "wither and die" he asserted, when the right to vote is not fully exercised by the people. He attributed many acute problems now facing the nation to the fact that only one-third of the qualified voters participated in the elections of 1946 which resulted in the election of the 80th Congress.

Further extension of the reactionary policies of the 80th Congress, Mr. Green said in his address over the Mutual network, may bring about a disastrous depression and afford opportunity to the Communists to "gain millions of new converts." He added:

"Our strongest weapon against the spread of Communism in America is to make our democracy work, to make it function effectively for the promotion of the interests of all our people. We cannot afford to call a halt to progress. We cannot waste time looking back to the 'good old days' which were not so good for millions of under-privileged families. We must find new frontiers of progress and create ever higher standards of living for the American people.

"How are the American people going to find the leadership to guide the ship of state along a progressive and constructive course? It will take more than wishful thinking. It will take good citizenship.

"The registration books are still open in about half of the 48 states. If you haven't registered, you still have an opportunity to prove you are a good citizen by proceeding to register without delay and by voting, in accordance with your own beliefs and your conscientious judgment on November 2d. Remember, if you don't register you cannot vote in most states.

"I am making this appeal to you tonight in behalf of Labor's League for Political Education. We want to get out the largest possible vote in November. We believe the time has come for a real mandate to our government from all the American people.

"Labor's League for Political Education is following a strictly non-partisan political policy. It has not endorsed, nor will it endorse, any political party as a whole nor any party ticket. The League was organized by the American Federation of Labor, which has consistently adhered through the years to a non-partisan policy. That is in the American tradition. We are convinced it is our patriotic duty to urge the American people to vote and we have full confidence in their decision.

"Naturally, every voter wants to vote intelligently. It is often difficult, however, to judge between the opposing claims of candidates, especially those running for election to Congress. In such cases, the voting records of your Congressman and your Senators are your best guide.

"Labor's League for Political Education has compiled and printed the voting records of all members of Congress on 12 outstanding issues. We will be glad to send you a copy of this printed pamphlet, free of charge. Just send a postcard to Labor's League for Political Education, 1525 H Street N.W., Washington 5, D. C.

"The information contained in this pamphlet is especially important to every worker and every union member in the nation. If ever it was important for every worker in the nation to register and to vote, this is the year. The whole future of labor will be affected by the outcome of the November elections. If you, the workers of America, do your duty as good citizens and cast your ballots on Election Day, the future will be secure."

Tells Illinois Delegates No Labor Votes Must Be Wasted

Chicago.—Ripping into the wretched record of the 80th Congress in a two-fisted attack against its failures in labor, inflation and housing legislation, AFL President William Green called upon the State and local branches of the American Federation of Labor to rouse their membership in a campaign to elect a higher type of lawmaker to the next Congress.

In an address before the convention of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, Mr. Green emphasized that the AFL must depend upon the cooperation of all its members, the state federations and the city central bodies for the realization of labor's political goals.

"The votes that will elect the next President and the next Congress," Mr. Green said, "are right here in your own bailiwick and in the election districts of the other 47 states. Get them out! Make certain no labor votes are wasted!"

Mr. Green urged labor in Illinois particularly to defeat Senator C. Wayland Brooks and to elect Paul Douglas as his successor.

"Before leaving Washington," he said, "I took the trouble of looking up Senator Brooks' voting record in Congress, as compiled by Labor's League for Political Education. Out of 12 test votes, he scored only 2 favorable ones. That means that instead of hitting on all 6 cylinders, Senator Brooks has been limping along on 1. Worst of all, Senator Brooks has gone down the line consistently against labor on all antilabor bills, including the notorious Taft-Hartley Act."

Of Douglas, Mr. Green said "his election would be a glorious victory for decency and good government."

Resuming his indictment of the 80th Congress, which he has assailed with fervor and regularity in addresses before dozens of union conventions in the past 3 months, Mr. Green singled out Senator Taft for special condemnation. He said:

"Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio symbolizes all that is wrong with the 80th Congress. He serves in the United States Senate as the outstanding spokesman for big business. As such, he has championed the cause of all sorts of reactionary legislation and has fought bitterly against every effort to enact social justice legislation to meet human needs.

"For a while, it appeared that there was one remarkable exception to Senator Taft's thoroughly bad record. Two years ago, he agreed to serve as cosponsor for an important bill, originally introduced by Senator Wagner of New York, providing for a vitally needed, long-range housing program. The bill then became known as the Wagner-Ellender-Taft bill. It offered the only effective means of coping with the nation's acute housing shortage and providing decent homes for workers and veterans in the low-income bracket. Senator Taft's cosponsorship of this bill, in view of his influential position in Congress, offered real hope for its successful passage.

"But when the test came, when the bill came up for consideration during the recent special session of Congress, when forthright and courageous leadership was called for to bring this constructive legislation to final enactment, Senator Taft fell down on the job. He succumbed to the pressure of the reactionary group fighting for selfish real estate interests. He deserted his own baby and let it die.

"Congress, which follows the bidding of Senator Taft, failed the nation when it adopted the Housing Act of 1948 and scuttled the Wagner-Ellender-Taft bill.

"Are we then going to return to power in the November elections, the Congressmen and Senators who voted against the interests of the people so brutally and so consistently during the past two years?

"Are the millions of workers in this country going to give their votes and their endorsement to the lawmakers who imposed the oppressive and destructive Taft-Hartley Act upon them?

"Is labor going to sit still and let itself be pushed back into the dark ages of the open shop, company spies and terrorism, without protest?

"Are we going to permit all the gains we have achieved through long years of struggle for the workers of our country to be wiped out by default?

"We must not and we dare not let that happen.

"Remember this—the workers of this country possess the political power to defeat the 80th Congress at the polls and to reverse its reactionary, antilabor policies.

"Remember this—the 80th Congress was elected by only one-third of the qualified voters of this country in 1946. The rest just didn't bother to register or vote.

"If you do remember these vital facts, I am confident that you and the members of your families and all your friends will make certain to register and vote this year.

"To protect your own interests and the interests of a decent, wholesome America, you must not neglect to vote on November 2.

"When the votes of the millions of workers throughout the land are counted, they will add up to a resounding victory for progress."

Judge Raps NLRB Attorneys For Delay As Hearings End In ITU Contempt Case

Indianapolis.—Hearings in the contempt case against the AFL International Typographical Union ended with Federal Judge Luther M. Swygert questioning whether the government was tardy in filing its charges against the union.

The court took the case under advisement after closely querying Winthrop Johns, associate counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, about NLRB timing in filing the suit.

A decision may not be issued for several weeks.

President Truman has charged that the action against the ITU was filed only after Senator Taft "put the heat on" NLRB attorneys in a Washington conference with them and newspaper publishers' representatives.

In final argument before Judge Swygert, Gerhard Van Arkel, the ITU's attorney, said "the only reason" the NLRB general counsel's office brought the case was because of Senator Taft's urging.

Judge Swygert noted that the general counsel's office knew as early as April of the ITU's standard contract offer made to publishers after the injunction.

The judge wanted to know if the NLRB attorneys were not "condoning" the offering of these contract terms to publishers when they waited until August to file the contempt action.

"We haven't condoned anything, your honor," Johns replied.

"Well, what do you call it then," Swygert said. "You go along a while not doing anything about it, then suddenly you do something."

Eric Johnston Urges U. S. Use Labor Ambassadors

Washington.—Appointment of outstanding labor representatives as United States ambassadors to foreign nations with labor governments is strongly advocated by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America.

In a new book, soon to be published, called "We're All In It," Mr. Johnston declares that America's role in world leadership would be greatly strengthened if we adjust our foreign policy to the new shape of the world and adjust our diplomatic personnel "to make it click."

The former head of the United States Chamber of Commerce, who inaugurated a liberal labor policy in that organization which has since faded, says in his book:

"Labor leaders can bring special equipment to an assignment like that. They are used to dealing with people. When they tell the facts about America's democratic capitalism to other peoples they are more likely to be believed in the circles where it counts.

"There is no mystery to the friendly reception American labor leaders get wherever they go. They may not speak the tongue of workers everywhere, but they speak a common language. Shop talk is an easy route to understanding among men in any field."

Hailing the good work done abroad for America by the late Frank Fenton, international representative of the AFL, Mr. Johnston says in his book:

"At a time when there are so many misconceptions about American capitalism in Europe, we could use a lot of Frank Fentons.

"Representatives of labor should be folded into our job of world leadership on the same basis as all other Americans.

"American labor has men we need, and just at the hour when we need them most, they're here and ready for the job."

FOOD COMPANY HEAD PROTESTS MEAT PRICES

New York.—A prominent executive in the meat packing industry warned his colleagues that the average family cannot afford the high prices for meat currently in the markets, and called for regulation of the prices of essential foods.

Samuel Slotkin, president of the Hygrade Food Products Corp., one of the biggest independent packing houses, assailed the American Meat Institute for its advertisements which attempted to explain away the industry's huge profits.

"The wage earner and his family are not helped a whit by costly advertisements which tell the public that meat packers net a profit of but a fraction of a cent a pound. The average family still cannot afford to buy meat at these prices."

Mr. Slotkin called for the regulation of the prices of major foods in the way "other public utilities" such as telephone and electric services are controlled.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

LABOR'S GOAL!
To Repeal
Taft-Hartley Law

WILLIAM GREEN, President
WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1948
GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

RADIO LOG

Here is a lineup of interesting and punchy radio programs which will be broadcast over nation-wide hookups during the balance of the month of October. This is "must" listening for all members of the AFL and their friends. The programs are sponsored by the AFL and its affiliates. All times given are Eastern Standard Time and the date that of the origination of the program. Since some of these programs will be rebroadcast at a later time or at a later date in a number of cities, especially in the Western time zones, please consult your daily newspaper for the exact time of presentation in your community.

Oct. 10	America United NBC Network— 1 to 1:30 p.m., EST.	Radio Forum on "The Causes of Industrial Peace"
Oct. 12	Serenade for Strings ABC Network— 10:45 to 11 p.m., EST.	Music With a Message From the AFL
Oct. 14	Political Broadcast ABC Network— 10 to 10:15 p.m., EST.	Campaign Talk Sponsored by ILGWU
Oct. 17	America United NBC Network— 1 to 1:30 p.m., EST.	Radio Forum on "Labor and Foreign Policy"
Oct. 19	Serenade for Strings ABC Network— 10:45 to 11 p.m., EST.	Music With a Message From the AFL
Oct. 21	Political Broadcast ABC Network— 10 to 10:15 p.m., EST.	Campaign Talk Sponsored by ILGWU
Oct. 24	America United NBC Network— 1 to 1:30 p.m., EST.	Radio Forum on "Why Bother to Vote?"
Oct. 26	Special Political Program ABC Network— 10 to 10:30 p.m., EST.	Talks by Labor Leaders Entertainment from Hollywood
Oct. 26	Serenade for Strings ABC Network— 10:45 to 11 p.m., EST.	Music With a Message From the AFL
Oct. 27	Political Broadcast Mutual Network— 10:30 to 10:45 p.m., EST.	Talk by George Meany
Oct. 28	Political Broadcast ABC Network— 10:15 to 10:30 p.m., EST.	Campaign Talk Sponsored by ILGWU
Oct. 31	America United NBC Network— 1 to 1:30 p.m., EST.	Radio Forum on "The Election Issues"

WEST COAST FIGHT

PART 2

By Staff Correspondent

San Francisco.—The campaign for government of, by and for the people in California through the adoption of an initiative measure for reapportionment of the state senate on a modified population basis met with strange opposition from its start.

Although the second initiative measure to qualify, senate reapportionment was given number 13 on the state's general election ballot. C. J. "Neil" Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor, filed a protest with the secretary of state and charged that it wasn't a coincidence that number 13 was given the measure, but was apparently a studied effort to handicap the measure.

Headquarters offices were established in San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento and a film entitled "The Magic State"—20 minutes of sound with Herbert Rawlinson, Franklin Farnum and others contributing their acting through the Hollywood Film Council—was produced and is being shown to clubs, fraternities, service organizations and unions. Speakers go to various meetings to explain the measure. "The Senator" is a tabloid published for state-wide distribution.

The motion picture is effective in giving the historical background of the state and the need for better representation.

The Republican State Convention's Resolutions Committee turned down a resolution condemning the initiative measure, but the Democratic State Convention incorporated the measure into its platform by a vote of 68 to 23.

The plank takes its wording from a resolution passed earlier this year by the U. S. Conference of Mayors as follows:

"The keystone of our whole system of government involves equality of men, equality of representation, equality of burden and equality of rights and benefits. To further these principles we advocate the adoption of proposition number 13 on the November ballot, providing for reapportionment of the state senate."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Veterans Committee in conventions, leaders of the American Legion, the Amvets and Disabled American Veterans have also endorsed the measure.

Under the direction of the California Labor League for Political Education pamphlets and tabloids have been produced to further the campaign's effectiveness. Television has been employed for 13 weeks in southern California for the first time in a political campaign. Radio, billboards, posters and traveling billboards are being used to acquaint California with the measure.

The opposition is lead by the industrial agriculturalists, the California State Chamber of Commerce, the Associated Farmers, the Los Angeles and San Francisco Chambers of Commerce, and by the Employers Council of San Francisco.

The opposition labels the measure as "Labor domination of the government of California," and an invitation to political bossism. Almon E. Roth of the San Francisco Employers Council has circularized all businessmen with warnings that the measure will give labor greater legislative powers.

It all boils down to fear of "government of the people, by the people and for the people."

For senate reapportionment means equal representation in the senate, restricting Los Angeles County to 10 senators—or one senator for each 400,000—giving San Francisco 4 senators or one senator for each 210,000 population, 3 senators for Almeda County (Oakland, Berkeley, Almeda City); and 2 senators for San Diego County's 500,000 population.

The less populated counties would be combined to have one senator for each approximate 110,000 or 150,000—a vast improvement over 5 senators now representing 136,000 in the mountain areas.

This is the state federation's first big positive fight in behalf of all the people of California, with all labor in the state united behind the campaign.

Pittsburgh Street Car Employes Win Substantial Gains In New Contract

Pittsburgh.—Maintaining Pittsburgh standards as among the nation's best, Divisions 85 and 1084 of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes have negotiated a new contract with the Pittsburgh Railways Company and the Pittsburgh Motor Coach Company.

Under its terms, the division's 3,600 members gained a 13-cent hourly wage increase, $100-a-month pensions, paid holidays, improved health insurance benefits and the union shop.

Contract settlement brought the unionists an immediate bonus of $200,000 as 10 cents of the increase was made retroactive to May 1, 1948, expiration date of the previous agreement.

O. David Zimring, general counsel for the International Union, praised the "patience of the members during the lengthy but fruitful negotiations."

"The new agreement," he declared, "is material and concrete support for the Amalgamated policy of collective bargaining in the American fashion around the conference table with the just demands of the workers supported by unassailable economic and industrial facts."

It was estimated more than $1,320,000 yearly will be set aside by the company to support the pension system. The health benefits are increased 40 percent and hospitalization benefits 50 percent. Several hundred nonoperating employes gain additional increases on top of the general raise.

For your turn at bat--REGISTER & VOTE!

Gangsterism By Employers Protested By Garment Workers In Demonstration

New York City.—Expulsion of racketeers from the garment district was demanded by thousands of dressmakers at a mass rally in West 35th St., scene of a recent gang assault on 7 union pickets.

The demonstration was the climax of an industry-wide work stoppage called by the Dress Joint Board of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL, as a symbol of defiance to "open-shop manufacturers and their gangster henchmen."

Julius Hochman, manager of the Dress Joint Board, described the hour-long demonstration as the biggest in the history of the city's biggest union. He estimated that 40,000 dressmakers had paraded through the streets of the garment area and that 25,000 had attended the rally.

The tone of the rally was conveyed in placards carried by the union members, which called on gangsters to get out of the district and asserted that unionism was the cure for "hoodlumism." Recently 5 thugs invaded the union offices at 218 West 40th St. and beat 3 union organizers with chairs, brass knuckles and fists. A half-hour later men armed with lead pipe and wrenches set upon an ILGWU picket line in West 35th St.

The dressmakers, most of whom are women or elderly men, applauded continuously as their leaders called upon them to reply to the assaults by conducting day and night picketing demonstrations outside nonunion shops in the garment area. Scores of white-capped members of the Seafarers International Union, AFL, who have been assisting the garment workers in the organizing drive, lined the street during the rally.

Luigi Antonini, first vice-president of the ILGWU and secretary of the Italian Dressmakers Union, Local 89, told the crowd that he held the nonunion manufacturers more responsible than the gangsters for the return of violence to the district. He accused the manufacturers of having enough money to pay thugs but not to deal honorably with the union.

The union's determination to carry its organizing campaign to a successful conclusion despite any future attempts at intimidation was emphasized by Isidore Nagler, secretary of the Cutters Union, Local 10; Charles S. Zimmerman, secretary of the Dressmakers Union, Local 22; Max Cohen, secretary of the Dress Pressers Union, Local 60; Saby Nehama, director of the union's Spanish section, and Nathaniel Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the Dress Joint Board.

The loudest cheers were reserved for William Ross, chief organizer for the joint board, who had 7 stitches taken in his scalp as an aftermath of the gangsters' sluggings.

After the rally Mr. Hochman announced that 2 nonunion jobbers had signed up without strikes and that the union had called a strike against one other jobber. He announced that 18 additional jobbers had indicated their desire to negotiate contracts with the union.

Two CIO Unions Tabooed By Atomic Energy Head

Washington.—The Atomic Energy Commission ordered 2 contractors to bar from atomic plants CIO unions whose officers are suspected of Communist affiliation.

The labor organizations affected are the United Public Workers of America, with members at the Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago, and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, with members in the new Knolls II Atom Powers Laboratory of the General Electric Co. at Schenectady, N. Y.

While the United Electrical Union has a contract covering all General Electric employes, the notice sent out by Commission Chairman David E. Lilienthal applied only to the atomic installations.

The Lilienthal notice to the two companies was supplemented by a letter to Paul M. Herzog, chairman of the National Labor Relations Board. Mr. Herzog was advised that the commission had decided to withdraw its request that the board refrain from processing labor cases involving certain atomic energy projects.

In his letter to Charles E. Wilson, president of the General Electric Co., Chairman Lilienthal noted that the officers of the CIO's United Electrical Union had failed to file non-Communist affidavits.

"In addition," he said, "information is available, much of it a matter of public record, of alleged Communist affiliation or association of various officers of UE. It appears that some of these UE officers are in a position within this union whereby they exercise administrative, negotiating or disciplinary authority over General Electric Co. employes engaged in atomic energy work at Schenectady.

"The failure to file non-Communist affidavits and the information concerning alleged Communist affiliation of these officers of UE, when taken together, present a very serious question as to whether representation of atomic energy workers at Schenectady by a union in which such officers occupy important positions is consistent with that full and unqualified adherence and loyalty to the interests of the United States that the security of the nation and the policy of the atomic energy act of 1946 require."

The company was then directed, in the interest of national security, to withdraw recognition of the UE at the Knolls power laboratory.

Withdrawal of recognition of the United Public Workers at the University of Chicago's Argonne laboratory was also ordered by Chairman Lilienthal in a letter addressed to William B. Harrell, business manager of the University of Chicago.

WEEKLY EARNINGS ROSE IN AUGUST, BLS REPORTS

Washington.—Gross average weekly earnings for the 13,200,000 production workers in the nation's manufacturing establishments advanced to a new record of $53.86 in mid-August, 1948, according to preliminary estimates made available by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.

Continued gains in gross hourly earnings reflecting wage adjustments, particularly in durable goods industries, were largely responsible for the advance. Hourly earnings increased from 133.2 to 134.5 cents over the month.

Tories Plotting More Drastic Anti-Labor Laws Next Session

Anti-trust Prosecutions Of Unions Revealed By Hartley

Washington.—Reactionary forces, while deliberately lying low during the political campaign, are secretly preparing an all-out drive to crack down on labor with even tougher legislation than the Taft-Hartley Act during the next session of Congress.

Tipoff on what lies in store for labor if the anti-labor forces win an election sweep was divulged by Representative Fred Hartley of New Jersey, co-author of the Taft-Hartley Act.

In an interview on the publication of his new book on anti-labor legislation, Representative Hartley stated flatly that his reactionary colleagues only did "half the job" during the 80th Congress and are planning to complete their legislative assaults against labor in the 81st Congress. Having decided not to run for reelection himself, Representative Hartley frankly stated that his confreres are soft-pedaling the subject right now for fear of reprisals at the polls.

The nature of the new anti-labor legislation planned by the reactionary forces is clearly outlined in Hartley's book. He says that the existing legal protections for labor contained in the Norris-LaGuardia Act and the Clayton Act must go and that organized labor must be made subject to prosecution under the anti-trust laws from which it is now exempted.

The same idea was expressed by Senator Joseph Ball, of Minnesota, in a recent radio broadcast during which he admitted, under prodding, that he considers labor a "commodity." This is a direct refutation of the language of the Clayton Act which states bluntly that "labor is not a commodity nor an article of commerce."

With the backing of the National Association of Manufacturers and other reactionary employer groups, a new propaganda wave is being built up to accuse labor of exercising a "monopoly." This would be the opening wedge of the drive to subject labor unions to prosecution under the anti-trust laws.

If that ever happened, industry-wide bargaining would automatically be outlawed and any strike which tied up interstate commerce would be broken up by court actions against the union and prosecution of union leaders. The hopes of the reactionaries are to smash all national and international unions and reduce the trade union movement to a loose and disintegrated collection of small local unions.

The Norris-LaGuardia Act was practically repealed by the Taft-Hartley Act, which provided for various kinds of court injunctions against labor unions. The Clayton Act, hailed at the time of its passage by the late Samuel Gompers as the "Magna Charta of labor," is the next target of the anti-labor forces.

For the foregoing reasons, labor's political activities in the current political campaign have taken on a defensive as well as offensive strategy. The first objective of Labor's League for Political Education, the AFL's political arm, is to bring about the election of a new Congress which will repeal the Taft-Hartley Act. Even if that goal cannot be accomplished in the Nov. 2 elections, it is of vital importance that the new Congress will not be so subservient to the reactionaries as to enact a repealer of the Clayton Act.

From a defensive point of view, the key to the congressional situation is the Senate race, where an overturn of four seats will swing majority control from the Republicans back to the Democrats. While a number of Democratic Senators, especially the Dixiecrat element from the South, have been voting regularly with the Republican leadership on anti-labor legislation, Democratic control of the Senate would change important committee chairmanships and make it possible for labor to have a better chance to block vicious legislation.

Labor's League for Political Education has endorsed Democratic candidates for the Senate in 18 tight Senate races. It behooves local league branches to redouble their campaign efforts in each of these contests because so much depends upon victory in the Nov. 2 elections.

LLPE To Climax Campaign With All-Star Radio Show

Washington, D. C.—A nation-wide radio program highlighting labor's activities in the political campaign will be broadcast on Oct. 6 under the auspices of Labor's League for Political Education.

The program, which will be carried over the American Broadcasting Company network from 10 to 10:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, will feature star entertainment from Hollywood and talks by AFL President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany.

Arrangements have been made to follow up the network broadcast with local radio programs in key localities in behalf of senatorial and congressional candidates endorsed by the league, which is the political arm of the American Federation of Labor.

Time for the program has been purchased by the LLPE in its campaign to bring home to the American people the importance of voting—and voting intelligently—in the Nov. 2 elections.

Through the cooperation of the American Federation of Radio Artists and its executive secretary, George Heller, some of the outstanding stars of screen and radio will participate in the entertainment portion of the program.

Don't fail to listen to this topnotch broadcast!

Other "must" listening for all AFL members is the "America United" program over the NBC network beginning Oct. 10 when this outstanding forum series will resume under AFL sponsorship. The opening program will deal with "The Causes of Industrial Peace." Participants in the round-table discussion will include James S. Killen, vice-president of the Pulp and Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers; William H. Davis, former chairman of the National War Labor Board, representing the National Planning Association; Robert B. Wolf, former vice-president of the Pacific Coast Pulp and Paper Makers Association, and Phil Pearl, AFL Information Director.

The "America United" programs will continue under AFL sponsorship for five consecutive Sundays through Nov. 7. They originate in Washington, D. C., from 1 to 1:30 p.m. each Sunday. Please consult your local newspapers for exact broadcast time in your local community.

Labor-Management Join In Program To Reduce Industrial Accident Toll

Washington.—The President's preliminary Conference on Industrial Safety closed here with 400 committee members from all sections of the country pledged to unqualified support of a permanent program and organization designed to reduce industrial mishaps.

Called to Washington by President Truman, through the Bureau of Labor Standards of the Department of Labor, committeemen were told of 17,000 deaths, 91,000 permanent disabilities and 2,000,000 injuries incurred by workers during 1947.

Maurice J. Tobin, Secretary of Labor, in addressing the conference, declared that the Department of Labor was 100 percent behind their efforts to organize the long term cooperative program to reduce job accidents.

Committee members represented a wide cross section of American life, with high ranking labor leaders sitting shoulder to shoulder with top management executives and governmental representatives.

In a message read to the opening session of the meeting, President Truman called upon labor and management to join with the government in a long-range program to cut down the tragic toll from industrial accidents.

"This great national tragedy must be stopped," Mr. Truman's message continued. "We must not subject these workers and their families to needless suffering and insecurity. We must not deprive our country of their production, which is now so necessary if we are to meet our domestic and foreign obligations."

The message was read by Dr. John Steelman, presidential assistant.

Secretary of Labor Maurice Tobin told the conferees that while every state in the union now had workmen's compensation laws, only half of the country's workers were protected by such legislation. He said laws in most states should be broadened and strengthened.

He added, however, that most accidents did not violate any law and could be eliminated only when employers and workers applied voluntary safety measures "with day-to-day concentration."

Frances Perkins, former Secretary of Labor and now a member of the Civil Service Commission, called for restoration of authority, denied by Congress, to enable the Labor Department to open training courses to state factory inspectors when the states request them.

Miss Perkins said basic responsibility for assuring safe working conditions in industry rested upon the states, since, being closer to management and labor, they could do a better job than the federal government.

Harrison Denounces Hartley Proposal As Threat to Kill Railway Labor Act

Washington.—"The Republicans and their presidential candidate want to destroy the Railway Labor Act just as they destroyed the Wagner Act," it was charged by George M. Harrison, chairman of Labor's Committee for Truman and Barkley, and president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks.

Republican plans to remove the nation's commercial airline employes from the jurisdiction of the Railway Labor Act and make them subject to the oppressive Taft-Hartley Act were denounced by Harrison.

His charges were based on a statement by Representative Fred A. Hartley, coauthor of the Taft-Hartley law. Hartley's announcement came after the president of National Airlines, whose AFL pilots have now been on strike for nearly 8 months, complained to the Taft-Hartley congressional "watch-dog committee" that the National Mediation Board (set up under the Railway Labor Act) was not as favorable to management as the National Labor Relations Board. Mr. Harrison said:

"Clearly the Republicans want to destroy the Railway Labor Act just as they destroyed the Wagner Act. They want to make sure that the scales are balanced against working people in all fields not now under the Taft-Hartley Act.

"The workers now covered by the Railway Labor Act fortunately enjoy immunity from the slave provisions of the Taft-Hartley law," Harrison said. "After conferring with airline officials, Hartley, speaking for Dewey and the Republican party, declared he wants to put the same shackles on airline pilots and other airline workers that the 80th Congress put on most industrial workers."

PROFITS HIT NEW HIGH, AS PRICES KEEP SOARING

Washington.—Corporate profits increased more than any other type of income during the second quarter of 1948 when the national income rose to a record rate of more than $221,000,000,000 a year, the Department of Commerce reported.

On an annual rate basis, profits rose to almost $31,000,000,000, the survey showed. Industrial prices continued their advance, the department noted.

The profit rise was estimated at 7 percent over the first quarter of this year and 16 percent higher than the second quarter of 1947.

AFL UNION WINS ELECTION

Evansville, Ind.—An AFL Federal Labor Union won a sweeping victory in an NLRB representation election held among employes of the Bucyrus-Erie Company here. The vote was 549 for the AFL to 289 for no union.

UNION SHOP WINNING IN 97 PERCENT OF TESTS

Washington.—This will be disappointing to Taft-Hartley Act champions, but workers are still not staging any rush to "emancipate" themselves from unions, according to a report issued by the National Labor Relations Board.

Workers voted for the "union shop" in 2,714, or 97 percent, of the 2,795 elections of that type held during July, the board declared.

In 476 straight collective bargaining elections—involving mostly workers heretofore unorganized—75 percent of the 47,384 valid votes cast favored representation by unions.

The board also announced that a decline in cases filed enabled it to whittle down its huge backlog by 7 percent. On July 31, over 11,800 cases, however, still awaited disposition.

FIREMEN AND OILERS WIN

Chicago.—The right to represent powerhouse employes at the union station here was established by the Firemen & Oilers in a national mediation board election, in which the CIO was overwhelmingly defeated, the AFL Railway Employes' Department announced.